

form like the *P. Brasiliensis*, mingled with the other carrion-feeding hawks on the banks of the Plata; and there is now in the British Museum a specimen, which may be considered as partly an albino. Spix, on the other hand, (*Avium Species Novæ*, p. 3.) has described some specimens from the coast of Brazil, as being remarkable from the darkness of the plumage of their wings.

MILVAGO, Spix.

Several new genera have lately been established to receive certain species of the sub-family of *Polyborinæ*, and consequently great confusion exists in their arrangement. Mr. George R. Gray has been kind enough to give me the following observations, by which it appears he has clearly made out, that Spix's genus *Milvago*, is that which ought to be retained. M. D'Orbigny has made two sections in the genus *Polyborus*, according as the claw is covered with feathers, or is naked, and he states that the *P. Brasiliensis* is the only species which comes within the latter division; but we shall afterwards see that the *Falco Novæ Zelandiæ*, Auct. (the *Milvago leucurus* of this work) has a naked claw, which is largely protruded after the bird has eaten. M. D'Orbigny has also instituted the genus *Phalcobænus*, to receive a bird of this sub-family, with the following characters:

"Bec fortement comprimé, sans aucune dent ni sinus, à commissure très-arquée à son extrémité; cire allongée et droite; un large espace nu entourant la partie antérieure et inférieure de l'œil, et s'étendant sur toute la mandibule inférieure; tarsi emplumés sur un tiers de leur longueur, le reste réticulé; doigts longs, semblables à ceux des gallinacés, terminés par les ongles longs, déprimés et élargis, très-peu arqués, toujours à extrémité obtuse ou fortement usée; ailes de la famille, la troisième plume plus longue que les autres."

Mr. George R. Gray, however, has pointed out to me that Spix, (in his *Avium Species Novæ*) ten years since, made a division in this sub-family, from the rounded form of the nostril of one of the species, namely, the *M. ochrocephalus* of his work, or the *Chimachima* of Azara. And Mr. Gray thinks, that all the species may be grouped much more nearly in relation to their affinities by this character, than by any other: he further adds;—"The only difference which I can discover between this latter genus (*Milvago*), and D'Orbigny's (*Phalcobænus*), is, that in the latter the bill is rather longer, and not quite so elevated in the culmen as in the former; and these characters must be considered too trivial for the foundation of a generic division. I, therefore, propose to retain Spix's genus, *Milvago*, for all those *Polyborinæ* which possess rounded nostrils with

an elevated bony tubercle in the centre. They were once considered to form three distinct genera, viz.—*Milvago*, Spix. (*Polyborus*, Vieill. *Haliaëtus*, Cuv. *Aquila*, Meyen.)—Senex, Gray. (*Circaëtus*, Less.)—*Phalcobænus*, D'Orb. but a careful comparison of the several species, shows a regular gradation in structure from one to the other, which induces me to consider them as only forming two sections of one genus. Those which have the bill short, with the culmen arched, and are of small size, slender form, and with the tarsi rather long and slender, are—

1. *Milvago ochrocephalus*, Spix.

Polyborus chimachima; Vieill. (young).

Falco degener, Licht.

Haliaëtus chimachima, Less.

2. *Milvago peziporos*, nob.

Aquila pezipora, Meyen.

3. *Milvago chimango*, n.

Polyborus chimango, Vieill.

Haliaëtus chimango, Less.

Those which have a buteo-like appearance, and with rather short and stout tarsi, are,

7. *Milvago leucurus*, n.

Falco leucurus, Forster's Drawings No. 34.

Falco Novæ Zelandiæ, Gm.

— *Australis*, Lath.

Circaëtus antarcticus, Less.

8. *Milvago albogularis*, n.

Polyborus (*Phalcobænus*?) *albogularis*, Gould.

9. *Milvago montanus*, n.

Phalcobænus montanus, D'Orbig.

10. *Milvago megalopterus*, n.

Aquila megaloptera, Meyen.

1. MILVAGO PEZOPOROS.

Aquila pezipora, Meyen. Nov. Act. Phys. Med. Acad. Cæs. Leo. Car. Nat. Cur. suppl. 1834. p. 62. pl. VI.

I obtained two specimens of this bird, one from Port Desire, in Patagonia, and another at the extreme southern point of Tierra del Fuego. Meyen* describes it as common on the plains of Chile, and on the mountains to an elevation of 4000 or 5000 feet. As M. D'Orbigny does not notice this species, I presume it is not found on the Atlantic side of the continent, so far north as the Rio Negro, where he resided for some time. The habits and general appearance of *M. chimango* and this bird are so entirely similar, that

* *Novorum Actorum Academiae Cæsariae*, Leopold. vol. xvi. p. 62. *Observationes Zoologicas*, F. J. Meyenii.